

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A system for on-demand computer pricing, comprising:

a plurality of instant capacity on demand (iCOD) computers, wherein each iCOD computer has at least one asset class, each asset class having a number of monitored assets associated with the at least one asset class, wherein the monitored assets consist of active assets and inactive assets in the at least one asset class and wherein the plurality of iCOD computers comprise a total amount of inactive assets in the at least one asset class, the system, comprising:

a network connection connecting the plurality of iCOD computers; and
an auditing system operably connected to the plurality of iCOD computers using the network connection, the auditing system comprising:

a memory that stores:

data about monitored assets for each asset class for each iCOD computer, and

sums, across all of the plurality of iCOD computers, of the monitored assets for at least one asset class; and

instructions for executing:

a notification process that provides a notification when the total amount of inactive assets in at least one asset class for all of the plurality of iCOD computers changes; and

a process allowing payment-free transfer of active assets from one iCOD computer to another iCOD computer within the network.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the notification is an invoice.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein each iCOD computer transmits an audit of the monitored assets for the iCOD computer.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the auditing system generates the notification if the total amount of inactive assets of the at least one asset class is less than an expected total amount of inactive assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the auditing system generates the notification if the total amount of active assets of the at least one asset class is greater than an expected total amount of active assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one asset class includes a number of central processing units (CPUs).

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one asset class includes hard disk capacity.

Claim 8 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one asset class includes memory.

Claim 9 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one asset class includes input/output (I/O) ports.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A computer-implemented method for measuring usage of at least one asset class over a network comprising a plurality of instant capacity on demand (iCOD) computers, the method, comprising:

receiving data about a quantity of assets of the at least one asset class for each iCOD computer on the network;

summing the quantity of assets of the at least one asset class for all of the plurality of iCOD computers on the network, thereby obtaining a sum of assets for the at least one asset class;

providing a notification if the sum of assets differs from a previously specified total for the assets for the at least one asset class; and

allowing payment-free transfer of assets from one iCOD computer to another iCOD computer within the network.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein receiving data about the quantity of assets further includes decrypting data about the quantity of assets.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one asset class consists of active assets and inactive assets, and wherein the notification is provided when the sum of inactive assets of the at least one asset class is less than an expected total of inactive assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein at least one asset class consists of active assets and inactive assets, and wherein the notification is provided when the sum of active assets for the at least one asset class is greater than an expected total of active assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein providing the notification further comprises requiring a payment.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein providing the notification further comprises issuing an invoice.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A computer-implemented method for measuring usage of at least one asset class over a network comprising a plurality of instant capacity on demand (iCOD) computers, the method comprising the steps of:

- measuring a quantity of assets of at least one asset class from each of the plurality of iCOD computers on the network;

- transmitting data about the quantity of assets for at least one asset class for each iCOD computers to an asset database;

- receiving a notification if a total quantity of assets for the at least one asset class for all of the iCOD computers on the network differs from a previously specified total quantity of assets of the at least one asset class for all of the iCOD computers on the network; and

- allowing payment-free transfer of assets from one iCOD computer to another iCOD computer within the network.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein measuring the quantity of assets of the at least one asset class further comprises measuring a quantity of inactive assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein measuring the quantity of assets of the at least one asset class further comprises measuring a quantity of active monitored assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method of claim 16, wherein transmitting data about the quantity of assets further includes encrypting the data about the quantity of assets.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving the notification when the total quantity of inactive assets of the at least one asset class is less than an expected total quantity of inactive assets for the at least one asset class.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, further comprising receiving the notification when the total quantity of active assets for the asset class is greater than an expected total quantity of active assets for the asset class.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein receiving the notification further comprises receiving a payment request.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein receiving the notification further comprises receiving an invoice.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A computer-implemented method for monitoring at least one asset class in a network having a plurality of instant capacity on demand (iCOD) computers, wherein the at least one asset class consists of active assets and inactive assets, the method comprising:

grouping the plurality of iCOD computers into at least one cluster, wherein the at least one cluster includes at least one iCOD computer;

receiving data about the quantity of assets by asset class from each iCOD computer in the network of iCOD computers;

summing, for each cluster, the quantity of assets by asset class for all iCOD computers in each cluster, thereby obtaining a total quantity of assets for each asset class for each cluster;

comparing, for each cluster, the total quantity of assets for each asset class for each cluster with a previously specified total quantity of assets for each asset class for each cluster;

providing a notification if the total quantity of assets for a given asset class for a given cluster is different than the previously specified total quantity of assets for the given asset class for the given cluster; and

allowing payment-free transfer of active assets from one iCOD computer to another iCOD computer within the network.

Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein grouping the computers into at least one cluster further includes registering the computers into the at least one cluster by issuing a command from one of the plurality of computers.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein receiving data about the quantity of assets further includes decrypting the data.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein providing the notification further comprises requiring a payment.

Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein providing the notification further comprises issuing an invoice.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 24, further comprising providing the notification if the total quantity of inactive assets for any one asset class for any given cluster is less than the previously specified total quantity of inactive assets for that asset class for that given cluster.

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 24, further comprising providing the notification if the total quantity of active assets for any one asset class for any given cluster exceeds the previously specified total quantity of active assets for that asset class for that given cluster.